

REMARKS

Amendment Summary

In this response, the Applicant has cancelled claims 7 – 18, without prejudice. Claim 33 has been amended to depend from claim 19, rather than cancelled claim 12.

Support for these amendments is found throughout the original specification. No new matter has been added.

Claim Status

Claims 1 – 6 and 19 - 33 are presently pending.

Claim Rejections

In the Office Action claims 7 – 18 and 33 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Tyneski et al. (5,881,299). The Applicant has cancelled claims 7 – 18 and amended claim 33 to depend from allowed claim 19. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw these rejections.

Reissue Oath/Declaration

The remaining claims stand substantially as they were originally presented in the preliminary amendment filed November 22, 2002 along with the original reissue oath/declaration. Accordingly, the Applicant believes that no supplemental reissue oath/declaration is necessary (nor was it requested in the Final Office Action).

Conclusion

In light of the above remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is now in condition for allowance. Early issuance of Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge shortages or credit overpayments to Deposit Account No. 500393.

Respectfully submitted,
Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt, P.C.

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